

ABSTRACT

Peptides derived from amino acids 307 to 356 of the human blood coagulation factor Va are provided. Such peptides comprise: i) a length of between 3 and 50 amino acids, ii) a minimum of 3 contiguous amino acids from the 307-356 heavy chain region of factor Va, excluding peptide segments comprising amino acids 311 to 325 and amino acids 321 to 335, iii) optional additional amino acids at one or both ends of the contiguous amino acids such that the entire peptide is at least 60% identical to a sequence within 307 to 356 of factor Va, and iv) have an IC_{50} of between 50 nM to 500 μ M for inhibition of prothrombinase. The present invention also provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more prothrombinase-inhibiting peptide segments. The present invention also provides administration of the pharmaceutical composition to human subjects for the purpose of preventing thrombotic disorders.